

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

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USIA-06 IO-13 /068 W

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4699

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 4857

NOFORN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR, US, CH, TW

SUBJECT: NCNA OFFICIALS COMMENT ON U.S. "TWO-CHINA" POLICY,

PREFERENCE FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF TAIWAN PROBLEM

SUMMARY. AN NCNA REPORTER RECENTLY EXPRESSED INDIGNATION TO CONGENOFF OVER SIMULTANEOUS CONGRESSIONAL VISITS TO CHINA AND TAIWAN, COMMENTING THAT THIS WAS ONE MORE EXAMPLE OF A USG "TWO-CHINA" POLICY. ANOTHER NCNA OFFICIAL INQUIRED IF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WOULD ESTABLISH FORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE PRC "IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS", AND EXPRESSED A PREFERENCE FOR THE PEACEFUL "LIBERATION" OF TAIWAN.

END SUMMARY.

1. AT A MEETING OF THE UNITED FRONT MARCO POLO CLUB APRIL 28, NCNA REPORTER CHENG YUNG COMMENTED TO CONGENOFF THAT THE VISITS
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TO TAIPEI BY SENATORS GOLDWATER AND SPARKMAN WHILE CODEL SCHWEIKER/BRADEMAS WAS IN CHINA SMACKED OF A U.S. "BALANCING ACT WITH REGARD TO TWO CHINAS". CONGENOFF EXPLAINED THAT SUCH VISITS ARE NOT PART OF A COORDINATED PLAN, BUT WAS CUT OFF BY CHENG'S RATHER SHARP RETORT THAT THE LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE BRANCHES OF THE USG ARE ALL PART OF ONE GOVERNMENT. CONGENOFF THEN REMINDED CHENG ABOUT SEPARATION OF POWERS IN

THE U.S. AND CONGRESSIONAL INDEPENDENCE IN PLANNING SUCH TRIPS, BUT IT WAS CLEAR THAT CHEN FELT HE WAS BEING HANDED PROPAGANDA BOILER PLATE.

2. THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED A LOCAL COMMUNIST ASSUMPTION THAT THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH CONTROLS CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL. LAST SEPTEMBER, FOR EXAMPLE, THE PRC-CONTROLLED "HSING WAN PAO" RAN A COMMENTARY WHICH BEGAN: "WHEN FORD WAS CONTENDING WITH REAGAN FOR THE REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION, HE SENT MINORITY LEADER SENATOR SCOTT TO CHINA; NOW THAT HE IS COMPETING WITH CARTER FOR THE PRESIDENCY, HE SENDS MAJORITY LEADER SENATOR MANSFIELD TO CHINA."

3. IN A DISCUSSION WITH ANOTHER CONGENOFF THE SAME EVENING, NCNA REPORTER WONG BUN-YUEN (HUANG WU-YUAN) RAISED THE GENERAL SUBJECT OF SINO-U.S. RELATIONS AND INQUIRED IF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WOULD ESTABLISH FORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS "IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS". CONGENOFF RECALLED SECRETARY VANCE'S EARLIER STATEMENT THAT THE WHOLE QUESTION OF SINO-U.S. RELATIONS IS BEING STUDIED AND REPEATED ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE'S MARCH 15 STATEMENT THAT THE ADMINISTRATION LOOKS TOWARD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PRC LATER THIS YEAR.

4. IN THE COURSE OF THE ENSUING CONVERSATION, WONG THEN PRESENTED A FORMULA FOR PRC-TAIWAN REUNIFICATION NOT RECENTLY HEARD IN HONG KONG. REFERRING TO MAO'S WRITINGS ON LIBERATING CHINESE CITIES, EH SAID THERE WERE TWO WAYS TO LIBERATE TAIWAN: ONE WAS BASED ON THE "TIENTSIN MODEL" AND

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THE OTHER ON THE "PEKING MODEL". TIENTSIN HAD BEEN LIBERATED VIOLENTLY DURING THE WAR OF NATIONAL LIBERATION, AND IN A SIMILAR MANNER "SO COULD TAIWAN". ALTERNATIVELY, THE PRC COULD USE THE "PEKINT MODEL" OF SURROUNDING AND PRESSURING TAIWAN TO ACHIEVE A PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION. HE SAID, "WE WOULD PREFER TO LIBERATE TAIWAN PEACEFULLY SINCE THIS WOULD MEAN LESS DAMAGE TO THE PATRIOTIC FORCES AND PROPERTY." WONG SAID THAT DURING THIS PERIOD "WE WOULD, OF COURSE WELCOME NEGOTIATIONS WITH TAIWAN", BUT HE FELT THAT THIS WAS UNLIKELY SINCE CHIANG CHING-KUO HAD A VERY UNSTABLE POLITICAL BASE. CONGENOFF ASKED IF TAIWAN WOULD THEN ENJOY SOME SEMI-AUTONOMOUS STATUS, AND WONG REPLIED THAT "IT IS HARD TO SAY" BUT "YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THIS WILL BE A VERY GRADUAL PROCESS THAT CAN ONLY BE CONSIDERED AN INTERNAL CHINESE PROBLEM."

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Message Attributes

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SUMMARY: AN NCNA REPORTER RECENTLY EXPRESSED I NDIG
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